GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5087
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008
SCHEME TO ESTABLISH SEA BED BOUNDARY
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to establish its sea-bed boundary to stake claim of some additional sea-bed areas beyond its existing exclusive economic zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when this scheme is likely to be implemented ?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. The Government has a scheme to delineate outer limits of continental shelf extending beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone being implemented by Ministry of Earth Sciences. The outer limits of the continental shelf have to be established by acquisition of geophysical data through bathymetry and through seismic reflection and refraction. The scheme involves acquisition, processing and interpretation of geophysical data for determination of the water depth, foot of slope and sedimentary rock thickness followed by the preparation of India's submission to the United Nations with necessary documentations. The acquisition, processing and interpretation of geophysical data has been completed and the documentation for the submission is in the advanced stage of completion.

(c) The deadline for India's submission for outer limits of continental shelf to the United Nations is May, 2009.